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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/816,556	03/23/2001	Brian W. Bramlett	5038-77	7122

7590

05/20/2004

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1030 S.W. Morrison Street  
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EXAMINER
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VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/816,556

Applicant(s)

BRAMLETT, BRIAN W.

Examiner

Kieu D Vu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

BA HUYNH

PRIMARY EXAMINER

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn. A new Final Rejection follows herewith.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-26, 28-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nuovo et al ("Nuovo", USP 6097964) and Levin et al ("Levin", USP 6686911).

Regarding claim 1, Nuovo teaches selection device 1 comprising a display 3 designed to present a selection; and a selector 10 operable in two axes, a first axis (rotation axis of the roller body) for changing the selection and a second axis for acceptance (press the roller) of the selection (line 63 of page 5 to line 3 of page 6), the selector operable in first and second directions on the first axis (rotation axis) and operable on third direction on the second axis (pressing axis). Nuovo differs from the claim in that the selector 10 is not operable on the fourth direction on the second axis (pressing axis). However, this feature is known in the art as taught by Levin. In the same field of roller control interface, Levin teaches a control knob on a device that allows user to

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control functions of a device (abstract). Control knob of Levin can rotate about an axis extending through the knob (col 1, lines 64-67) or being pulled or pushed in a degree of freedom along the axis extending through the knob (col 6, lines 52-54). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Nuovo and Levin before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the selector taught by Nuovo to include the pull or push ability taught by Levin with the motivation being to provide the users with additional way to select functions or settings (Levin, col 6, lines 52-56).

Regarding claim 2, Nuovo teaches the first axis of the selector is a rotation axis (revolve the roller, col 5, line 67).

Regarding claim 3, Nuovo teaches that the display changes in relation to the rotation of the selector around the rotation axis (Fig. 10).

Regarding claim 4, Nuovo teaches that the selection opens a sub menu for further selection with the selection device (col 11, lines 22-24).

Regarding claim 5, Nuovo teaches the selection is designed to scroll across the display (68 in Fig. 10).

Regarding claim 6, Nuovo teaches comprising interconnection means for interconnecting the selection device with a second device to exchange data (phone network device, col 5, lines 24-29)

Regarding claims 8-9, Nuovo teaches that the interconnection means includes a wireless transmitter and wireless receiver (col 5, lines 24-29).

Regarding claims 10 and 20, Nuovo teaches a method for using a selection device 10, the method comprising navigating a menu (Fig. 10) using the selection device, the

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menu including at least one selection, the selection device operable in two independent axes, a first axis (rotation axis of the roller body) for changing a selection and a second axis for acceptance or rejection of the selection (col 11, lines 22-24); the selector operable in first and second directions on the first axis (rotation axis) and operable on third direction on the second axis (pressing axis), displaying the selection in a display (Fig. 10); and performing an operation responsive to the selection (Redial 72). Nuovo differs from the claim in that the selector 10 is not operable on the fourth direction on the second axis (pressing axis). However, this feature is known in the art as taught by Levin. In the same field of roller control interface, Levin teaches a control knob on a device that allows user to control functions of a device (abstract). Control knob of Levin can rotate about an axis extending through the knob (col 1, lines 64-67) or being pulled or pushed in a degree of freedom along the axis extending through the knob (col 6, lines 52-54). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Nuovo and Levin before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the selector taught by Nuovo to include the pull or push ability taught by Levin with the motivation being to provide the users with additional way to select functions or settings (Levin, col 6, lines 52-56).

Regarding claims 11 and 21, Nuovo teaches the navigating a menu includes changing the selection as the selection device is operated along the first axis (Scroll the list).

Regarding claims 12 and 22, Nuovo teaches the including accepting the selection as the selection device is operated along the second axis (depress the roller body).

Regarding claims 13 and 23, Nuovo teaches updating the display as the selection changes (changing the highlight upon changing the selection in Fig. 10).

Regarding claims 14 and 24, Nuovo teaches the scrolling the display in an up/down direction as the selection device is operated along the first axis (col 11, lines 22-24).

Regarding claims 15 and 25, Nuovo teaches scrolling the display in a left or right direction (move cursor between Names and Menu in Fig. 10).

Regarding claims 16 and 26, Nuovo teaches communicating with a second device (phone network device, col 5, lines 24-29).

Regarding claims 18 and 28, Nuovo teaches the including wirelessly communicating with a second device (col 5, lines 24-29).

Regarding claims 19 and 29, Nuovo teaches the menu includes at least two levels (menu and menu structure; and performing an operation includes opening a second level of the menu (col 11, lines 22-35).

Regarding claims 30, Nuovo teaches the second axis is a translation axis (front-to-back motion of the navigation key).

Regarding claim 31, Levin teaches that rotation axis is operative to rotate around the translation axis (see Fig. 3A)

Regarding claims 32 and 36, Nuovo teaches the changing the selection includes changing the selection as the selection device is rotated along the first axis (when the navigation keys is being rotated along the rotation axis, the selection rolls up or down).

Regarding claims 33-34 and 37-38, Nuovo teaches that the navigating a menu further includes accepting the selection as the selection device is operated and

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translated along the second axis (an item on menu is selected as the navigation key moves along the front-to-back axis).

Regarding claims 35 and 39, Levin teaches the accepting the selection as the selection device is translated along the first axis (col 6, lines 52-67).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 7, 17, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nuovo, Levin, and Jasinski et al ("Jasinski", USP 5063289).

Regarding claims 7, 17, and 27, Nuovo does not teach the cable to connect the device to a second device. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Jasinski. Jasinski teaches a combined mouse and trackball which comprises the cable 33 to connect the device with a computer (col 2, lines 66-67). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Nuovo, Levin, and Jasinski before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the device taught by Nuovo and Levin to include the cable connection taught by Jasinski with the motivation being to enable the data transmission between the two devices.

6. Applicant's arguments filed 04/16/04 are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-872-9326

and / or:

(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).



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Kieu D. Vu

05/05/04

BA HUYNH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER